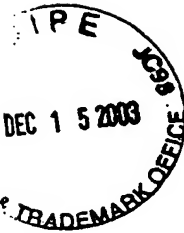


DOCKET NO: 245632US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
TOSHIO MORII, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 10/718,573 :
FILED: NOVEMBER 24, 2003 :
FOR: HIGH CONCENTRATION SILICA :
SLURRY :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.